GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3308
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2017
Caesarean Operations
Sampath Shri Anirudhan

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the private hospitals are forcing the women patients to undergo Caesarean operations even when these are not necessary, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the percentage of Caesarean deliveries reported in Government and private hospitals, State-wise;

(c) whether there is any mechanism with Government to check these unnecessary operations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE)
(a): As per National Family Health Survey −IV (2015-16), Birth in Health Facility by Caesarean Section (%) in private health facility is 40.9% which is higher than public health facility where it is 11.9%. However, there are multiple reasons for higher rates of C-section.

Some common and important medical indications for C-section include foetal distress, prolonged labour, Oblique presentation of the foetus and history of previous C-section. Now days the family size is small hence, every pregnancy is precious and sometime C-sections are also demanded by some patients. It is observed that due to good antenatal care, more high risk pregnancies are identified which also leads to higher C-sections.
(b): State/UT wise details are placed at Annexure.
(c) & (d): World Health Organisation (WHO) in its statement released in April, 2015 has said that at population level, Caesarean section rates higher than 10% are not associated with reductions in maternal and newborn mortality rates.
Government of India (GoI) has already written to all States and UTs sharing the latest WHO statement. In addition, States have been informed to conduct periodic prescription audit in the private health facilities under the Clinical Establishment Act. They have also been informed that prescription audits can be extended to public health facilities. 10 States and 6 UTs have adopted the Clinical Establishment Act. Health being a state subject, it is the responsibility of the states to effectively implement the act.
A communication has also gone to Federation of Obstetrical & Gynecological Societies of India (FOGSI) which is the largest professional body of Obstetricians and Gynecologists in India for sharing the WHO guidance note to all their State chapters and the Obstetricians and Gynecologists registered with them.
All CGHS Empanelled hospitals are directed to display the information regarding ratio of deliveries by Caesarean section vis-Ã -vis normal deliveries.